

# The Mercury Reader

Editor's Choice

## Composition Classics\*

*Selections marked 'New!' available January 2007*

**THE READING AND WRITING PROCESS** (includes **Judy Brady**, Why I Want a Wife)

**REVISION**

**Narration**

*Introduction*

**NEW!**

**Ray Bradbury**, There Will Come Soft Rains

**Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm**, Little Snow White

**Charles Lamb**, Letter to Wordsworth

**George Orwell**, Shooting an Elephant

**James Thurber**, University Days

**Description**

*Introduction*

**Joan Didion**, In Bed

**William Stafford**, Traveling Through the Dark

**E. B. White**, Once More to the Lake

**Virginia Woolf**, The Death of the Moth

**William Butler Yeats**, The Song of Wandering Aengus

**Example**

*Introduction*

**Annie Dillard**, An American Childhood

**Maxine Hong Kingston**, No Name Woman

**Brent Staples**, Black Men and Public Space

**NEW!**

**Hillel Schwartz**, Fat and Happy?

**Comparison and Contrast**

*Introduction*

**Margaret Atwood**, Death by Landscape

**Bruce Catton**, Grant and Lee: A Study in Contrast

**Russell Baker**, School vs. Education

**Suzanne Britt Jordan**, Neat People vs. Sloppy People

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\* Contents and availability subject to change.

## **Richard Rodriguez, Public and Private Language**

### **Process Analysis**

#### *Introduction*

**Garrison Keillor**, How To Write a Personal letter

**Jessica Mitford**, Behind the Formaldehyde Curtain

**Richard Selzer**, The Discus Thrower

### **Classification and Division**

#### *Introduction*

**Judith Viorst**, Friends, Good Friends—and Such Good Friends

**Gail Sheehy**, Predictable Crises of Adulthood

**Aaron Copland**, How We Listen to Music

**NEW!** **Howard Gardner & Joseph Walters**, A Rounded Version: The Theory of Multiple Intelligences

### **Cause and Effect**

#### *Introduction*

**Shirley Jackson**, The Lottery

**Anne Sexton**, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

**NEW!** **Marianne Szegedy-Maszak**, The Abu Ghraib Prison Scandal: Sources of Sadism

**Alice Walker**, Beauty: When the Other Dancer is the Self

### **Definition**

#### *Introduction*

**Dave Barry**, Mr. Language Person Takes Some of Your Questions

**NEW!** **Sigmund Freud**, The Oedipus Complex

**Gloria Naylor**, Mommy, What Does 'Nigger' Mean?

**Tom Wolfe**, The Right Stuff

**Frederick Douglass**, Learning to Read and Write

### **Persuasion**

#### *Introduction*

**Thomas Jefferson**, The Declaration of Independence

**Mary Wollstonecraft**, A Vindication of the Rights of Women

**Jonathon Swift**, A Modest Proposal

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**, Letter from Birmingham Jail

**RESEARCHING PAPERS**  
**DOCUMENTATION IN THE HUMANITIES: MLA STYLE**